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S E C R E T MUSCAT 001288

SIPDIS

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DEPT FOR DS/IP/NEA, DS/IP/ITA, NEA/ARPI, NEA/EX
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 1.6X1

TAGS: [AEMR](#) [ASEC](#) [AMGT](#) [PTER](#) [CASC](#) [KHLs](#) [MU](#) [EAC](#)

SUBJECT: EMBASSY MUSCAT EAC - 08/20/2005

REF: A. SECSTATE 153834

[1](#)B. MUSCAT 1279

[1](#)C. MUSCAT 1064

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission William R. Stewart.
Reason: 1.4(b)(c)(d)(g).

Summary

[1](#)1. (SBU) The Ambassador chaired a meeting of the Emergency Action Committee (EAC) on August 20 to review the Embassy's security posture following the local weekend. Members noted no substantive changes in the local security environment since the last meeting. Accordingly, the EAC agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and force protection condition (FPCON) remain appropriate. End Summary.

Security Environment

[1](#)2. (SBU) On August 20, the Ambassador chaired a meeting of the full EAC to review the Embassy's security posture following the local weekend. The meeting opened with a discussion of the local security situation, which the EAC continued to characterize as stable. Members, including Duty Officer, cited no security incidents among their staffs or family members over the weekend, while CONS confirmed that there were no reported security incidents or security-related queries from the private American citizen community.

TAISM

[1](#)3. (SBU) In conjunction with a review of upcoming community events, RSO noted that security preparations are underway for The American International School of Muscat's August 25 "Back to School Picnic," which is expected to host approximately 500 invited guests. The Royal Oman Police Special Task Force will provide access control and perimeter security for the duration of the event.

Terrorist Tactics

[1](#)4. (S/NF) Prior to concluding the meeting, RSO addressed reftel A, regarding information that points to a spike in terrorist targeting of commercial transportation interests around the world. RSO and SIMO stated that they would have to research the paragraph 6 reference to potential attacks on airports in Oman, as that information does not appear consistent with current threat reporting. (Note: Subsequent to the EAC meeting, DS/IP/ITA confirmed to the RSO that ref A para 6 threat information was indeed incorrect and a correction cable will be issued. End note.) Members also noted unique conditions in the Sultanate, such as no system of mass transit (reftel C); however, RSO confirmed that the information contained in paragraph 14 will be incorporated into defensive personnel briefings, as applicable.

EAC Conclusion

[1](#)5. (S/NF) The EAC concluded that there have been no substantive changes in the local security environment since the last meeting held on August 17 (reftel B). Accordingly, members agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and FPCON remain appropriate. Embassy Muscat remains acutely aware of the need to monitor both the regional and local security and threat environments, and is prepared to take the necessary countermeasures should changes to either occur. AMB, DCM, P/E, A/MGT (Duty Officer), RSO, ARSO, SIMO, PAO, CONS, MSG, CLO, DAO, OMC (USDR), and ECA (USCENTAF) participated in the meeting.
BALTIMORE